

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. The changes to currently amended claims are shown using strikethrough to identify deleted material and underlining to identify added material.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of producing an image comprising:
providing a substrate;
depositing onto the substrate a material that sustains a relief feature imparted thereto, the material comprising an emulsive agent and a viscosity control agent; and
applying a coloring agent directly to the material, wherein the material is dried prior to application of the coloring agent.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising texturing the material to correspond to a topography of the image.
3. (canceled)
4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the substrate is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of canvas, paper, wood, ceramic, glass, metal, metal alloy, plaster, fabric, fiber, plastic, and combinations thereof.
5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the emulsive agent is selected from the group consisting of acid-processed gelatin, alkaline-processed gelatin, derivatised gelatin, polyvinylacetate, and combinations thereof.
6. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of producing an image comprising:
providing a substrate;

depositing onto the substrate a material that sustains a relief feature imparted thereto, the material comprising an emulsive agent and a viscosity control agent, wherein the emulsive agent comprises alkaline-processed bone gelatin; and
applying a coloring agent directly to the material.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the viscosity control agent is selected from the group consisting of cellulose, derivatised cellulose, starch, wheat paste, acrylic resins, and combinations thereof.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the viscosity control agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, cyanoethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the emulsive agent comprises polyvinylacetate.

10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the material further comprises an ingredient selected from the group consisting of pigments, matting agents, fillers, antistatic agents, surfactants, emulsifiers, UV absorbers, HAL absorbers, plasticizers, and combinations thereof.

11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the material further comprises one or more ingredients selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, titanium oxide, and a combination thereof.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the depositing of the material is achieved manually.

13. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the depositing of the material is achieved by automation.

14. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the texturing is achieved manually.
15. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the texturing is achieved by automation.
16. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the texturing is achieved with an implement selected from the group consisting of brushes, rollers, spatulas, sprayers, sponges, pallet knives, and combinations thereof.
17. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the texturing is achieved with a silkscreening process.
18. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 2~~ A method of producing an image comprising:
 providing a substrate;
 depositing onto the substrate a material that sustains a relief feature imparted thereto, the material comprising an emulsive agent and a viscosity control agent;
 texturing the material to correspond to a topography of the image, wherein the texturing is achieved with a mold having a form that corresponds to the topography of the image; and
 applying a coloring agent directly to the material.
19. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1 further comprising~~ A method of producing an image comprising:
 providing a substrate;
 overlying the substrate with a reference print of the image;

depositing onto the substrate a material that sustains a relief feature imparted thereto, the material comprising an emulsive agent and a viscosity control agent; and
applying a coloring agent directly to the material.

20. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the applying of the coloring agent is achieved manually.

21. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the applying of the coloring agent is achieved by automation.

22. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the coloring agent is applied with an inkjet printer.

23. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the coloring agent is selected from the group consisting of dye-based inks, pigment inks, solvent-based inks, and combinations thereof.

24. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the coloring agent is water-soluble.

25. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising applying a primer coating to the substrate whereby adhesion between the substrate and the material is increased.

26. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising applying a finishing coat overlying the coloring agent.

27. (original) A method of mass-producing an image comprising:
providing a substrate;

depositing onto the substrate a material that sustains a relief feature imparted thereto, the material comprising an emulsive agent and a viscosity control agent; and

applying a coloring agent directly to the material by an automated printing process.

28. (original) The method of claim 27 further comprising texturing the material to correspond to a topography of the image by a silkscreening process.

29. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 27 further comprising~~ A method of mass-producing an image comprising:

providing a substrate;

depositing onto the substrate a material that sustains a relief feature imparted thereto, the material comprising an emulsive agent and a viscosity control agent;

texturing the material to correspond to a topography of the image by a molding process; and

applying a coloring agent directly to the material by an automated printing process.

30. (currently amended) A material for producing an image comprising:
an emulsive agent; and

a viscosity control agent, wherein the viscosity control agent is present in an amount effective for the material to sustain a relief feature imparted thereto, and wherein the material is dried prior to application of a coloring agent thereupon.

31. (original) A material for producing an image comprising:

an emulsive agent selected from the group consisting of acid-processed gelatin, alkaline-processed gelatin, derivatised gelatin, polyvinylacetate, and combinations thereof; and

a viscosity control agent, which is present in an amount effective for the material to sustain a relief feature imparted thereto.

32. (original) The material of claim 31 wherein the viscosity control agent is selected from the group consisting of cellulose, derivatised cellulose, starch, wheat paste, acrylic resins, and combinations thereof.

33. (original) The material of claim 31 wherein the viscosity control agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, cyanoethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof.

34. (original) The material of claim 31 further comprising an ingredient selected from the group consisting of pigments, matting agents, fillers, antistatic agents, surfactants, emulsifiers, UV absorbers, HAL absorbers, plasticizers, and combinations thereof.

35. (original) The material of claim 31 further comprising one or more ingredients selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, titanium oxide, and a combination thereof.

36-41. (canceled)

SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

Dependent claim 3 has been canceled without prejudice to its further prosecution in a continuation and/or divisional application. The amendments to independent claims 1 and 30 are fully supported by the description in the specification (e.g., page 3, lines 20-23). Dependent claims 6, 18, 19, and 29, which were identified in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter, have been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-2 and 4-35 remain present and active in the application.